Libraries Working Towards Social Justice August 2021 Virtual Programs

Haverhill Library Program

Evanston’s Living History - Tuesday, August 3, 6:30pm

Craig Dudnick's Evanston’s Living History presentation begins with Mr. Anthony Crawford, born into slavery in January, 1865 in Abbeville, South Carolina. Through emancipation and the promise of Reconstruction, the Crawford family prospered, acquiring property in Abbeville that Anthony inherited and developed into 400 acres of prime cotton land.

A deadlocked Presidential election in 1876 led to the compromise which removed federal troops from the South and sounded the death knell for Reconstruction. With the dream of democracy crushed and the Jim Crow South left in its wake, Mr. Crawford was brutally lynched in Abbeville in 1916--his family forced to flee to Evanston, Illinois and the institutionalized racism of the North.

The transformation took decades, but those once refugees became community leaders. And later, Mr. Crawford’s descendants, alongside the families of Emmett Till, Michael Schwerener, James Earl Chaney, and Andrew Goodman worked to gain passage of United States Senate Resolution 39, which apologized for the failure of the Senate to enact anti-lynching legislation.

Please click here to register.

Tewksbury Library’s Programs

CORNING AUTHOR SERIES: '50 Rappers Who Changed the World' with Candace McDuffie - Wednesday, August 4, 7pm

Join author Candace McDuffie for a presentation on her new book, 50 Rappers Who Changed the World: A Celebration of Rap Legends, via Zoom. Arguably one of the most mainstream music styles today, rap was in fact born centuries ago in West Africa with historians or 'griots' who used to tell stories of the past over the beat of a drum. But it wasn't until the 1970s in New York that rapping as we know it was born and began to flourish. 50 Rappers Who Changed the World profiles some of the genre's biggest influencers, from the 1970s until the present day. From Bronx-based legends Afrikaa Bambaataa and Grandmaster Flash in the 70s, to Run-DMC and Public Enemy in the 80s, Biggie, Tupac and Snoop in the 90s, and Eminem and Jay-Z in the 00s, this is a history of music for anyone
who loves rap. Featuring MCs like Melle Mel, West Coast legends including N.W.A. and Ice-T, and countless women who changed the game, like Salt-n-Pepa, MC Lyte and Missy Elliot. And today, we have a new breed of artists who are dominating the charts, from J. Cole to Kendrick Lamar, Logic and Cardi B. Filled with a stylish illustrations and short biography of each artist, this book is a celebration of the musicians who shaped the genre and changed the world. More info & register HERE.

An Introduction To Pronouns & Gender Diversity - Tuesday, August 24, 7pm

Join us for a discussion on gender identity and the importance of pronouns with Dr. Shannon Peters, PhD, of Boston University, via Zoom. Learn about sexual orientation and gender diversity terminology; how sexuality and gender are seen as on a spectrum; and why gender pronouns are becoming more prominently used in society today. Bring your questions as they'll be a Q&A afterwards. Dr. Peters lectures in, writes about, and presents on several topics, including: (1) Impacts of systemic oppression, discrimination, and trauma on mental health of marginalized individuals (e.g., race, LGBTQAI+, immigration status, etc.); (2) Transgender healthcare and mental health; and (3) Gender-based violence response and prevention. She has been published in Journal of Social Issues, Journal of Humanistic Psychology, Social and Personality Psychology Compass, and General Hospital Psychiatry. Peters has presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, the Annual Association of Women in Psychology Conference, and The National Multicultural Summit. She earned a BA in Behavioral Neuroscience from Purdue University, an MS in Mental Health Counseling from UMass Boston, and a PhD in Counseling Psychology from UMass Boston. More info & register HERE.

Libraries Working Towards Social Justice formed in 2020 to expand our programming efforts beyond our individual communities to achieve a more equitable, diverse and inclusive society. The libraries include Andover, Burlington, Chelmsford, Groton, Haverhill, Lawrence, Lowell, Methuen, Newton, North Andover, North Reading, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Westford and Wilmington.